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8 November 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Critique for OXCART Mission Number BX6733

1. Subject mission critique was conducted in the OSA Control Center at 1400 hours, 3 November 1967.

2. Mission Data:

- a. Mission Number: BX6733
- b. Date Flown: 29 October 1967
- c. Area of Operation: North Vietnam
- d. Mission Success: Successful
- e. Pilot's Name: [REDACTED]
- f. Aircraft Number: 127
- g. Primary or Spare Flown: Primary
- h. Takeoff Time - Planned: 0210Z  
Actual: 0210Z
- i. Landing Time - Planned: 0610Z  
Actual: 0606Z
- j. Time Enroute - Planned: 4+00  
Actual: 3+56
- k. Departure Base: Kadena AB
- l. Landing Base: Kadena AB
- m. Equipment:

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(1) Primary: [REDACTED]

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(2) Spare: Same as primary.

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

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3. Operations:

a. Route (INS Plot vs. Planned): Satisfactory.

- (1) INS Terminal Error: 3.5 NM
- (2) INS Spec Error: 10.7 NM

b. Mission Generation &amp; Operational Support: Satisfactory.

4. Weather:

a. Forecast vs. Actual:

- (1) Worse than briefed.

(2) Comments: [ ] reported first target area 60 per cent cloud covered and pass number two 65 per cent covered. Cloud mass in Northwest North Vietnam moved slightly further Southeast than forecast and a large isolated cloud mass affected southern part of pass number one.

b. Weather Scout Reporting: Satisfactory.

5. Intelligence:

a. Target Coverage:

- (1) 22 of 26 programmed targets covered.
- (2) 3 first priority SSM targets of 9 covered.
- (3) 12 of 27 first priority NVN COMOR targets covered.
- (4) 67 SAM sites, 1 site occupied, 1 new site.
- (5) 16 other priority NVN COMOR targets covered.
- (6) Comments: One pass was made to scan the DMZ for gun positions and the panhandle for tactical missiles. None were found. Mong Cai, the only remaining COMIREX target of the original 48, not covered on any previous mission, was photographed. Other areas of high interest that were photographed include Yen Bai, Pinghsiang, Dong Dang, Dien Bien Phu and the rail lines between Hanoi and Pinghsiang. Valuable oblique coverage of China obtained to the north of Mong Cai, North Vietnam.

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b. Quality of Take: Satisfactory.

- (1) Resolution: Good.
- (2) Camera Operation: Normal.

d. Significant Findings: None.

f. Take Movement:

- (1) Photography: Satisfactory.
- (2)  Satisfactory.

6. Materiel:

a. Aircraft General: Satisfactory.

- (1) Comments: Left inlet a little rough throughout mission.

b. Aircraft Systems: Satisfactory..

- (1) Comments: INS indicator inoperative; TACAN weak.

7. Communications: Satisfactory.

- a. Message Traffic: Satisfactory.
- b. : Satisfactory.
- c. UHF/HF Commo: Satisfactory.

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8. Outstanding Actions Required:

Confirm operational status of Chin Chou SAM site. NPIC has confirmed site is not occupied. (Intelligence Division, OSA).

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 WILLIAM E. SHELTON  
Colonel, USAF  
Deputy for Operations, OSA

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